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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/035,463	10/18/2001	Jeremy Burr	P-5889-US	3948

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EXAMINER

ISMAIL, SHAWKI SAIF

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

DATE MAILED: 07/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/035,463	Applicant(s) BURR, JEREMY	
	Examiner Shawki S. Ismail	Art Unit 2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, and 7-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

RESPONSE TO AMENDMENT

1. This communication is responsive to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) amendment received on May 15 2006.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-8, 13-14, 17-19, 24-25, and 28 have been amended.

Claim 6 was cancelled.

Claims 1-5, and 7-28 are pending.

New Ground(s) of Rejection

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-5 and 7-28 have been fully considered but are considered to be moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-5, and 7-28, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ahmed et al., (hereinafter referred to as Ahmed) U.S. Patent No. 6,816,460 and in view of Dunko (hereinafter referred to as Dunko) et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20020183068 A1.

5. As to claim 1 and 7, Ahmed teaches a mobile device, comprising:

a processor programmed to establish a mobile ad-hoc network of mobile devices and to construct a routing of at least some of the mobile devices of the ad-hoc network wherein the processor is able to establish, within said mobile ad-hoc network, a sub-network of the mobile devices according to said routing list. (col. 4, lines 9-25, col. 9, lines 1-20).

Ahmed does not explicitly indicate wherein the ad-hoc network and sub-network is established among the mobile device that include an installed common application software.

Dunko teaches searching method for mobile terminals in the user's vicinity to establish a communication link with them. A mobile terminal begins by searching to identify other mobile devices in range that contain compatible Bluetooth application. When a match occurs the searching mobile devices compares received search code provided by the found devices to the search list containing search codes for the selected individuals and/or groups known to the searching mobile devices ([0036]).

Therefore, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teaching of Dunko into the invention of Ahmed so that mobile devices that have compatible software application are identified so that communication between them may be established.

6. As to claim 2, Ahmed teaches a mobile device according to claim 1, wherein the routing list includes one or more routes to the one or more other mobile devices (see Fig. 1 and 2, col. 4, lines 9-25).

7. As to claim 3, Ahmed teaches a device according to claim 1, comprising:

a memory (col. 9, lines 1-20);

a routing table stored in the memory, the routing table including the routing list (col. 4, lines 9-25).

8. As to claim 4, Ahmed teaches a mobile device according to claim 3, wherein the routing table is designed to store a route to at least one other reachable device (col. 4, lines 35-45).

9. As to claim 5, Ahmed teaches a mobile device according to claim 1, wherein the receiver is able to receive from a second mobile device another routing of other devices reachable from said second mobile device (col. 4, lines 35-45, col. 6, lines 30-54).

10. As to claim 8, Ahmed teaches a method according to claim 7, further comprising establishing a communications channel between first and second devices (col. 4, lines 35-46).

11. As to claim 9, Ahmed teaches a method according to claim 8, further comprising:
receiving a list of devices reachable from the second device, the list including a third device (col. 4, lines 9-25);

establishing a communications channel from the first device through the second device to the third device (col. 4, line 64 – col. 5, line 29).

12. As to claim 10, Ahmed teaches a method according to claim 9, further comprising sending messages from the first device to the second device, to be relayed to the third device (col. 4, line 64 – col. 5, line 29).

13. As to claim 11, Ahmed teaches a method according to claim 10, wherein sending messages from the first device to the second device includes specifying a path from the first device to the third device (col. 4, line 64 – col. 5, line 29).

14. As to claim 12, Ahmed teaches a method according to claim 9, wherein establishing a communications channel from the first device through the second device to the third device

includes establishing a communications channel from the first device through the second device to the third device without regard for any alternative route from the first device to the third device (col. 3, lines 51-67, col. 4, line 64 – col. 5, line 29).

15. As to claim 13-14 and 17, Ahmed teaches a method according to claim 9 as discussed above.

Ahmed does not explicitly indicate wherein determining whether the third device has installed therein the common application software.

Dunko teaches searching method for mobile terminals in the user's vicinity to establish a communication link with them. A mobile terminal begins by searching to identify other mobile devices in range that contain compatible Bluetooth application. When a match occurs the searching mobile devices compares received search code provided by the found devices to the search list containing search codes for the selected individuals and/or groups known to the searching mobile devices ([0036]).

Therefore, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teaching of Dunko into the invention of Ahmed so that mobile devices that have compatible software application are identified so that communication between them may be established.

16. As to claim 15, Ahmed teaches a method according to claim 9, further comprising changing the communications channel to an alternative communications channel if the alternative communications channel has a lower cost than the communications channel (col. 4, line 64 – col. 5, line 29).

17. As to claim 16, Ahmed teaches a method according to claim 8, further comprising: receiving a list of devices reachable from the second device; and forwarding the list of devices to a third device within range of the first device (col. 4, line 64 – col. 5, line 29).

18. As to claims 18-28, they do not teach or define any new limitation above claims 1-17, therefore; they are rejected for similar reasons.

19. Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in its entirety as potentially teaching of all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

Response to Arguments

20. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-5 and 7-28 have been fully considered but are considered to be moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawki S Ismail whose telephone number is 571-272-3985. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shawki Ismail
Patent Examiner
June 26, 2006



SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER